

News from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

Washington, D.C. 20207

For Immediate Release
June 12, 2007
Release #07-209

Firm's Recall Hotline: (800) 248-0278
CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772
CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

Globe Fire Sprinkler Corp. Recalls Dry Fire Sprinklers ***Model J Heads Can Fail to Operate During a Fire***

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. (To access color photos of the following recalled products, see CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.)

Name of product: Globe Model J Series Dry Fire Sprinklers

Units: About 300,000

Manufacturer: Globe Fire Sprinkler Corp., of Standish, Mich.

Hazard: The sprinkler heads can deteriorate over time and fail to operate in a fire.

Incidents/Injuries: Globe has received five reports of sprinklers that failed to operate as intended during a fire. Globe has received no reports of injuries caused by sprinklers failing to operate.

Description: Model J Series dry fire sprinklers come in pendent, upright, and sidewall configurations. The name "Globe," the letter "J" and the year of manufacture (1990 through 1999) are embossed on the frame of each sprinkler. These dry sprinklers were designed to be installed in areas of buildings where the sprinklers or water supply pipes may be subject to freezing, such as unheated attics, freezers and coolers, parking garages, porches and warehouses.

Sold by: Fire protection contractors nationwide from January 1990 through December 1999 for between \$27 and \$36 per sprinkler head.

Manufactured in: United States

Remedy: Contact Globe immediately to arrange to receive replacement sprinkler heads at a reduced cost of \$9 per sprinkler head.

Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact Globe at (800) 248-0278 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at www.globesprinkler.com and click on the "Recall" link.



NOTE: springs attached to deflectors will only be present for concealed installations involving cover plates.



The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from more than 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. Deaths, injuries and property damage from consumer product incidents cost the nation more than \$700 billion annually. The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products - such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals – contributed significantly to the 30 percent decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

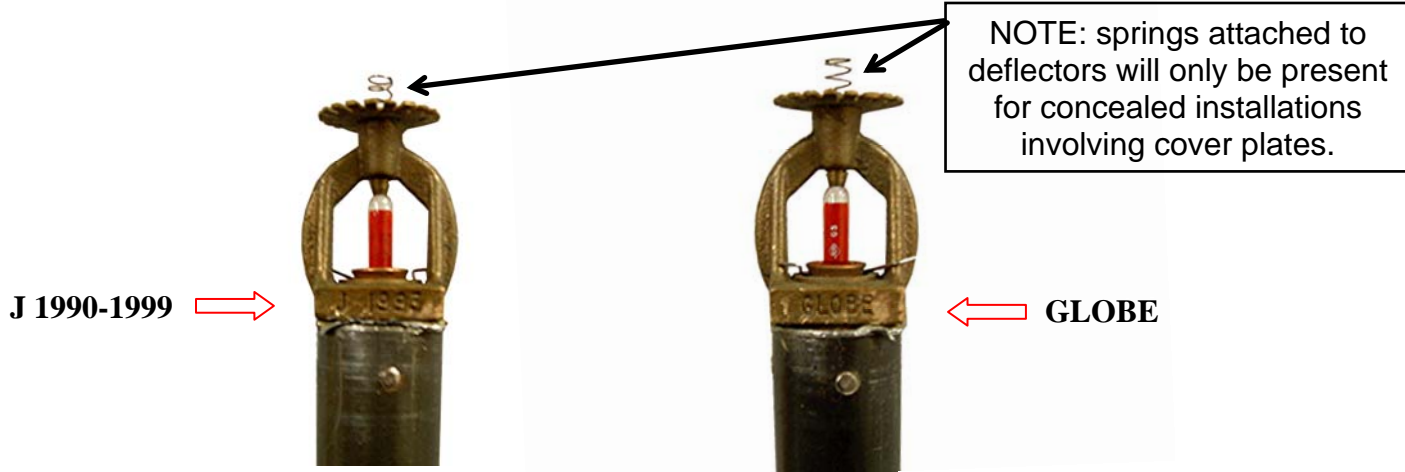
To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270 or visit CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov/talk.html. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.

###

SAFETY NOTICE

MODEL J DRY STYLE FIRE SPRINKLERS

The sprinklers may fail to operate in a fire.



Globe Sprinkler Corp. Model J Series pendent, upright, and sidewall dry fire sprinklers sold from 1990 to 1999. The name "Globe", the letter "J" and the year of manufacture (90 though 99) are embossed on the frame of each sprinkler.

These sprinklers were designed for installation in areas of buildings where the sprinklers or water supply pipes may be subject to freezing, such as unheated attics, freezers and coolers, parking garages, porches, and warehouses.

If you have these sprinklers:

Call 1-800 248-0278

Toll-free between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday EST
or

Visit www.globesprinkler.com

To arrange to receive replacement sprinkler heads at a substantially reduced cost.

SPRINKLER IDENTIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS

RECALL PROGRAM FOR GLOBE MODEL "J" DRY SPRINKLERS

Finding Dry Sprinklers. Pendent sprinklers (Fig. A) hang with the deflector facing the floor. They are often installed with optional escutcheon plates to cover clearance holes in ceilings and sometimes the sprinklers are "concealed" behind the removable cover plates (Fig. B). Upright sprinklers rise vertically from the water piping and are typically found in areas where the water piping is exposed, such as garages and warehouses. In addition to upright and pendent sprinklers, as well as vertical sprinklers (Fig. C), horizontal sidewall sprinklers (Fig. D), as the name implies, are located along a side-wall or side of a beam. Similar to pendent sprinklers, the horizontal sidewall sprinklers are often installed with optional escutcheon plates to cover clearance holes in the wall.

Precautionary Steps in Identifying Your Sprinklers

Prior to attempting the identification of a given sprinkler as being part of this Program, please review the following safety warnings: prior to attempting to view installed sprinklers, consult sprinkler system drawings, records of installation and/or maintenance, and/or look at spare heads located in the spare head box to attempt to identify the sprinkler model(s) installed in your sprinkler system.

If you are unable to determine what type of sprinklers you have in this manner, you may try to get close enough to the sprinklers to visually inspect them. Caution must always be exercised when climbing a ladder, using lifts, and scaffold to view installed sprinklers. DO NOT attempt to visually inspect your sprinklers if doing so places you in a precarious position.

Caution should be used at all times when attempting to identify and view sprinklers. The glass bulb or heat sensitive element can be easily damaged, causing the sprinkler to activate. If you are required to remove a cover plate for a concealed sprinkler, use caution not to disturb the sprinkler or damage the operating element which may cause activation of the sprinkler. Do not apply sources of heat and do not strike, disturb, or apply pressure to the glass bulb or activation element of the sprinkler. MORE IMPORTANTLY, DO NOT REMOVE YOUR SPRINKLERS IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY THEM. Sprinkler systems contain water under pressure or compressed air/gas that can cause severe damage or personal injury if sprinklers are removed while under pressure. Proper draining of a sprinkler system by a professional sprinkler installer prior to sprinkler removal is required to protect the building from water damage. If a sprinkler is to be removed or installed after the system has been properly shut down and drained, only the approved sprinkler wrench for the model sprinkler being removed or installed should be used to prevent damage to the sprinkler(s). Sprinkler systems should be regularly inspected and maintained by a professional fire protection installer in accordance with local and national guidelines. All dry sprinkler heads in a sprinkler system should be tested and replaced, if necessary, no later than ten years after installation.

Fig. A

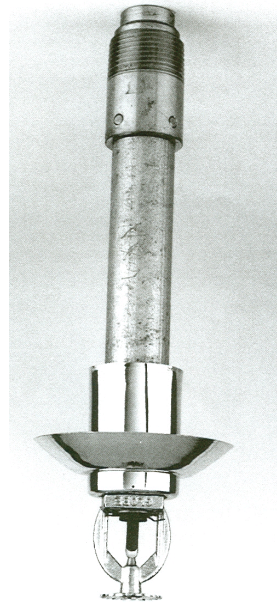


Fig. B

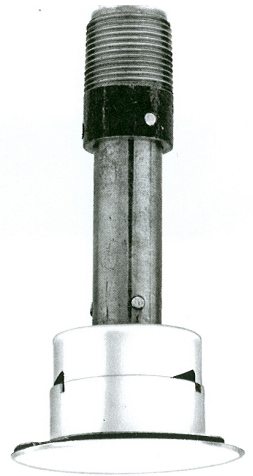


Fig. C

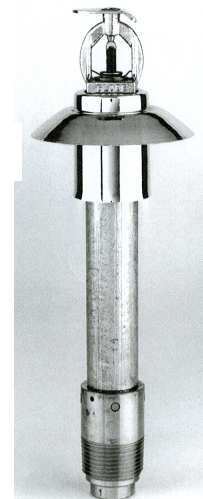


Fig. D

